GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:31
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Compensation to Farmers for Crop Loss
Chandel Kunwar Pushpendra Singh;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has released funds from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to States on account of crop damage, poor yield and loss of income to farmers due to change in weather pattern including drought, flood, unseasonal rains, etc. during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government has assessed the losses suffered by the farmers during this monsoon and if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the steps taken by the Government to release the relief amount;

(c) whether the Government has received representations from various States on account of delay and inadequate funds released from NDRF to compensate the losses suffered by the farmers during the said period and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(d) whether the Government has received requests/suggestions from various quarters to simplify the cumbersome procedure for release of funds from NDRF and to ensure adequate and timely relief to the affected farmers of natural calamity across the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the action taken by the Government on such requests/ suggestions, so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 31 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19TH JULY, 2016.

(a): Yes, Madam, the status of funds released from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) during the last three years and current year to States for natural calamities including droughts and floods is at Annexure.

(b): During the current monsoon (2016), no memorandum has been received from any State seeking financial assistance from NDRF for crop loss. Some States like Arunachal Pradesh (0.02 lakh hectares), Assam (0.32 lakh hectares), Himachal Pradesh (0.001 lakh hectares), Kerala (0.013 lakh hectares), Nagaland (0.001 lakh hectares), Uttarakhand (negligible area) and West Bengal (0.002 lakh hectares) have reported affected cropped area due to cyclonic storms/flash flood/floods/landslides/cloud burst etc during the current year.
(c) & (d): The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the States. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing logistic and financial support. To meet the expenditure on relief of immediate nature, a State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) has been created for each State. SDRF is a resource, that is readily available to the States to meet the expenses of relief & rescue operations of immediate nature, for a range of specified disasters. In case of disasters of severe nature, the state submits a detailed memorandum indicating the sector-wise details of damage and requirement of funds. An Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visits the affected State for an on-the-spot assessment. Financial assistance is, thereafter, extended from the NDRF in accordance with extant norms and established procedure.

Assistance under SDRF is provided for immediate relief and not by way of compensation for the loss suffered. Additional expenditure, if any, incurred over and above or on other than approved items/norms, is required to be met by the States concerned from their own resources.